

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): ~~A~~ An isolated polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4, or an amino acid sequence in which from 1 to 10 amino acids are deleted, substituted and/or inserted in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, and which binds to ~~Akt2~~ Akt-homolog-2 ("Akt2").

2. (currently amended): An isolated ~~A~~-polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4.

3. (currently amended): An isolated ~~A~~-polynucleotide ~~encoding~~ encoding the polypeptide described in claim 1 or claim 2.

4. (original): An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide described in claim 3.

5. (original): A cell transformed with the expression vector described in claim 4.

6. (currently amended): A method for screening a substance which inhibits binding of a polypeptide described in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ or a polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence having a homology of 90% or more with the amino acid sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and which binds to Akt2, ~~with Akt2~~, which comprises

allowing (1) the aforementioned polypeptide or a cell expressing the aforementioned polypeptide, to contact (2) a substance to be tested,

measuring binding of said polypeptide with Akt2, and

selecting a substance which inhibits the aforementioned binding.

7. (original): The screening method described in claim 6, wherein the binding inhibiting substance is an insulin resistance improving agent and/or a carbohydrate metabolism improving agent.

8. (currently amended): The screening method described in claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the step of measuring binding of (1) the polypeptide described in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ or a polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence having a homology of 90% or more with the amino acid sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4, and which binds to Akt2, to (2) Akt2 is a step of measuring a change in Akt2 based on the change in the aforementioned binding.

9. (currently amended): A method for producing a pharmaceutical composition for insulin resistance improvement and/or carbohydrate metabolism improvement, which comprises carrying out screening using the screening method described in claim 6 to ~~claim 8~~, and preparing a pharmaceutical preparation.

10. (new): The screening method described in claim 6, wherein the polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence having a homology of 90% or more with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 and which binds to Akt2 is a polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence having a homology of 95 % or more with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4.